



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

December 20, 2004



During a recent CVC site walk with Sequence 1 (Centex Construction Group) and Sequence 2 (Manhattan Construction Co.) contractors, Architect of the Capitol Alan Hantman (center) points out a structural element in the upper level. The site walk was one of several activities held December 9, 2004, to mark the completion of foundation and structure work and the transition of the project site from Centex to Manhattan.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 12/20/04 through 12/24/04

CVC and East Front Plaza Highlights:

- All major structural work for the CVC has been completed, including concrete placements for the roof deck, interior slabs, and all interior staircases. Work on the Library of Congress tunnel will be completed in late January 2005.
- Stone masons have now placed more than 160,000 granite pavers on the CVC roof deck.
- Two interior skylights in the grass beds near the face of the Capitol have now been installed as part of the effort to prepare the East Front Plaza for the inauguration and construction fencing has been reconfigured to allow greater access to the East Front Plaza near the House and Senate Steps.
- Dump trucks continue to backfill the sloping pedestrian entrance zones in the eastern half of the site.
- Sequence 2 workers continue to build mechanical spaces, erect interior block work, and install utilities throughout the site.

East Front Extension (EFE) (Inside the Capitol)

- All major steel erection and demolition activities are completed inside the East Front. Sequence 2 (build-out and finishes) contractors will continue installing mechanical systems and utilities in this zone.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- The truck tunnel is open to trucks delivering materials in support of the Sequence 2 contract.
- Crews have completed placing the asphalt necessary to restore Northwest Drive and the traffic lanes at the North Barricade Entrance. Striping and other finishing activities will occur over the next few weeks and will be completed prior to the inaugural on January 20, 2005.



Clearing out: The Sequence 1 contractor, Centex Construction, has now completed all of the major structural elements of the CVC and has now begun clearing personnel, materials and equipment from the site.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Asphalt paving and restoration work continues along First Street near the tunnel zone. Both sides of First Street are now open to traffic.
- All major concrete placements are now complete. Waterproofing will be completed later this month once the concrete cures (longer cure times due to the colder temperatures) along the eastern end of the tunnel. First Street has been paved and striping will occur later this month once temperatures rise.

Next Week – 12/27/04 – 1/03/05

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Workers will continue placing the granite paving stones on the CVC roof deck and continue with other plaza deck work in preparation for the inaugural in January.
- Crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, place concrete, erect blockwork, and backfill the zones near the CVC entrances.

East Front Extension

- Removal of temporary shoring and minor demolition activities will continue. All major steel erection and demolition activities have been completed.
- Installation of mechanical systems and utilities will continue.



A worker secures one of 32 glass panes to a CVC skylight on the East Plaza.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Restoration of Northwest Drive and the Senate Plaza will continue, including the removal of fences, placement of pavers, striping, and the restoration of sidewalks and landscaped areas.



Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Waterproofing and backfilling will continue in various zones along the LOC tunnel route, especially within the northwest grounds of the LOC.

For the first time in nearly three years, the East Front Plaza adjacent to the House Steps is accessible to pedestrians. The CVC construction perimeter fence has been moved as part of the effort to prepare the Plaza for the inaugural in January 2005.

If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, CVC project communications officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aac.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at www.aac.gov.